

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/020,260

Examiner

Mellissa M. Chojnacki

Applicant(s)

BRYAN ET AL.

Art Unit

2164

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 13-March-2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-43.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

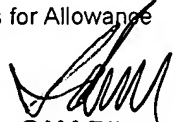
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. In response to communications filed on March 13, 2006, no claims are cancelled; claims 1,14 and 17 have been amended, and new claims 41-43 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-43 are still presently pending in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-43 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Appellants' arguments in the Amendment filed on March 13, 2006, have been fully considered and are found persuasive.

The prior art of record Zimmer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,816,878) in view of Saylor et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,501,832), in further view of Brown et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0055897), in further view of Austin (U.S. Patent No. 6,157,924), does not teach, disclose or suggest:

A knowledge switch comprising of a profiles module for storing user profiles including information for distributing the information alert to the intended recipients, the profiles module including a contact list template for receiving input from a user for defining a plurality of different contact profiles of the user for delivering the information alert to the user, each contact profile indicating at least one mode and contact

information for delivering the information alert to the user in the at least one mode, and a schedule template for associating a plurality of different time periods with the different contact profiles, wherein the knowledge switch is adapted to deliver the information alert to the user using at least one of the contact profiles and time periods specified by the user; and a plurality of input/output modules for distributing the information alert to the intended recipients via defined user devices, as claimed in independent claim 1.

Claims 1-13, 29-32 and 41 are allowed because they are dependent on independent claim 1.

A hierarchical system of knowledge switches for delivering alerts to end users comprising of a plurality of second knowledge switches located at predetermined agencies. the second knowledge switches being coupled to the first knowledge switches via the computer network, each second knowledge switch being configured to receive the information alerts, apply a policy Level to the information alerts, and distribute the information alerts to selected end users associated with each second knowledge switch based on the policy Level, wherein each of the first and second knowledge switches includes a contact list template for receiving input from a user for defining a plurality of different contact profiles of the user, each contact profile including at Least one mode and contact information for delivering an information alert to the user in the at least one mode, and a schedule template for associating a plurality of different time periods with the different contact profiles, wherein each of the knowledge switches is adapted to

deliver an information alert to its respective users using the contact profile and times specified by the user, as claimed in independent claim 14.

Claims 15-16, 33-36 and 42 are allowed because they are dependent on independent claim 14.

A method for defining and distributing information alerts comprising of presenting a user with a plurality of templates for configuring a knowledge switch to identify event information regarding a security event, to provide an information alert including user-defined content, and to automatically distribute the information alert to the intended recipients in response to receiving the event information, wherein presenting the user with a plurality of templates includes providing a contact list template to the user for receiving input from the user for defining a plurality of different contact profiles of the user, each contact profile including at least one mode and contact information for distributing an information alert to the user in the at Least one mode, and providing a schedule template for associating different times with the contact profiles; and automatically distributing the information alert to the intended recipient using the information provide via the templates, wherein automatically distributing the information alert to the intended recipients includes distributing the information alert to each recipient using at Least one of the plurality of contact profiles and times defined for each recipient, as claimed in independent claim 17.

Claims 18-28, 37-40 and 43 are allowed because they are dependent on independent claim 17.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mellissa M. Chojnacki whose telephone number is (571) 272-4076. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am-5:30pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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